

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 14 are independent. Claims 1-19 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claim 6 was objected to because of informalities. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that claim 6 should be changed to depend from claim 5 instead of claim 1. Claim 6 has been amended, thereby obviating the objection.

Claims 2-6, 9, 11 and 15-19 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants submit that these claims now depend, either directly or indirectly from one of the amended independent base claims, and as such are patentable without being rewritten in independent form.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1, 7, 8, 10 and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,650,178 to Brankovic et al.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...said n-port structure outputting n-2 output signals of a plurality of power sensors...
for multiplexing low-pass-filtered output signals of the plurality of power sensors.” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,650,178 to Brankovic et al. relates to an n-port junction device for processing modulated digital RF signals, a method of calibrating an n-port junction device and a method for processing modulated digital RF signals (column 1, lines 3-8). Indeed, Fig. 25 of Brankovic et al. merely shows a multiplexer (DC switch 755), which is supplied with a filter output signal of only one single power sensor (P1). In contrast, claim 1 recites, the multiplexing means are supplied with low-pass-filtered output signals of a plurality of power sensors.

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,650,178 to Brankovic et al. (hereinafter, merely “Brankovic”) that would disclose or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1.

Specifically, Applicants submit that Brankovic fails to teach or suggest a plurality of power sensors, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable.

Independent claim 14 is similar in scope and believed to be patentable for similar reasons.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

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